

EXHIBIT 12
DATE FEB 4, 09
HB 10



To: Dick Clark, State of Montana CIO
From: Dan Chelini, DEQ CIO
Date: February 3, 2009
Re: Support for ESSC Equipment request

I would like to take this opportunity to express my support for the portion of HB 10 that includes \$3.5 million to purchase Enterprise System Service Center (ESSC) equipment. This project represents a significant investment in Montana's future and promises to provide many benefits to state agencies.

Funding was approved during the 2007 legislative process to build service centers in both the Eastern and Western parts of Montana. This project will provide much needed survivability to critical state systems and information. The current request includes funding to purchase the equipment necessary to operate both facilities.

The completion of the ESSC project will reduce duplication of efforts by various agencies to provide for their own data center needs. It will also provide a much more efficient, and secure environment in which to operate.